



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC 20250

Washington Field Office • Olympia, WA 98507

Ag Statistics Hotline: 1-800-727-9540 • www.usda.gov/nass/



Released on April 21, 2006

Contact: Chris Messer (360)902-1940

nass-wa@nass.usda.gov

Survey to Show Varieties of Wheat and Barley in Washington

Olympia, Washington – Washington's farm operators will soon be asked about the wheat and barley varieties to be harvested in 2006.

This survey is one of the largest and most important surveys conducted by the USDA/NASS, Washington Field Office. These data are important because:

- ... A vehicle is provided by which samples can be selected for the wheat quality work conducted by the Wheat Marketing Center,
- ... Producers rely on the data to reach valid production, marketing, and investment decisions,
- ... Preliminary estimates of planted acreage by Agricultural Statistics Districts are provided, ensuring ample seed is available for the most popular varieties, and
- ... The Washington Wheat and Barley Commissions provide financial support for this survey and rely heavily on the data to help make sound marketing and export decisions.

"As with all of our surveys, we safeguard the confidentiality of all responses," said Chris Messer, Director, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Washington Field Office. "Data about individual operations are used only in conjunction with information from other producers and never as an individual report."

To reduce costs, sampled respondents will receive a pre-survey letter in early May, followed by a phone call from a representative from the Washington Field Office. The survey will be released on July 12, 2006. For a copy of the finished report or to obtain other agricultural statistics, visit the USDA/NASS, Washington Field Office's website at www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Washington/ or call 1-800-435-5883.